

From: Michael E. Cohen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 2:23pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my concern at the settlement proposed between the United States and Microsoft. From all I can tell, the settlement relies far too much upon the good faith of Microsoft to avoid any future anti-competitive abuse of their desktop computer monopoly. The company's previous disregard of consent decrees should make it clear that a more enforceable solution is warranted.

Information processing and exchange is an enormous part of the United States economy. Ceding control of such an essential component of our economic well-being to a single company which has, in the past, shown indifference, if not scorn, for the interests of any party other than the company and its stockholders is risky at best. In the absence of either strong regulation of Microsoft's practices or of a structural remedy that can reduce the company's ability to extend its monopoly, we may well be ceding our country's economic future to a powerful entity which is not accountable to the will of the country's citizens.

Sincerely,
Michael E. Cohen